

LINDA LINGLE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

POST OFFICE BOX 621  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**PETER T. YOUNG**  
CHAIRPERSON  
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

**ROBERT K. MASUDA**  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

**DEAN NAKANO**  
ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES  
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION  
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT  
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS  
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT  
ENGINEERING  
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
KAIHOLAWA ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION  
LAND  
STATE PARKS

March 17, 2006

TO: ALL OWNERS OF DAMS OR RESERVOIRS

This letter is to remind you of your responsibilities as a dam or reservoir owner and to ask you to use this opportunity to update records of maintenance, operation and inspection activities of your dam(s) and reservoir(s).

Due to the recent statewide weather conditions as well as forecasts for the near term, we are instructing all dam or reservoir owners to immediately inspect and report back to the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) the nature and condition of your dam(s) or reservoir(s). Please include in your inspection update all recent maintenance, operation and inspection activities.

In addition, we are instructing all dam or reservoir owners to evaluate, and update if necessary, their emergency preparedness plans, including evaluation of potential downstream impacts should the dam or reservoir breach or partially breach. Please provide an updated dam or reservoir failure inundation map indicating downstream improvements that may be affected.

As a reminder, dam and reservoir owners are responsible to:

- Keep available and in good order records of original construction and any modifications.
- Provide for the adequate and timely maintenance, operation, engineering and inspection of your dam(s) and reservoir(s) and be responsible for any engineering and geologic investigations which may be required to insure public safety.
- Report to the Department their maintenance, operation and engineering activities, including piezometric data collection and geologic investigations.
- Advise the Department of any sudden or unprecedented flood or unusual or alarming circumstance or occurrence existing or anticipated which may adversely affect the dam(s) or reservoir(s).

To All Dam and Reservoir Owners

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- Prepare, maintain, and implement an emergency preparedness plan for each dam or reservoir for immediate defensive action to alert and evacuate the affected population and to mitigate damages to property.

The emergency preparedness plan shall contain at a minimum:

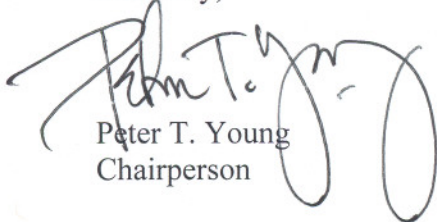
- the identification of equipment, labor, and material available for implementation of the plan;
  - a notification procedure for informing the Department and the Civil Defense Office of the affected county;
  - a dam or reservoir failure inundation map; and
  - a procedure for warning the affected population if failure of the dam or reservoir is imminent.
- Alteration or abandonment of a dam or reservoir could also trigger the need for a Department - Commission on Water Resource Management (CWRM) Stream Channel Alteration Permit under HRS 174C-93 & 95.
  - Obtain all necessary Federal, State, and County approvals for the project and abide by all conditions of approval.

If you decide to remove your dam(s) or reservoir(s), the Department will assist you in the processing of the permit for removal and present it to the Board of Land and Natural Resources or the Commission on Water Resource Management for action, as appropriate.

A copy of our March 14, 2006, Dam Safety Advisory is attached.

Please provide your recent, maintenance, operation, engineering and inspection records to our office within 2-weeks and your updated emergency plan within 30 days. Should you have any questions, contact Edwin Matsuda at the Department's Engineering Office at 587-0268.

Sincerely,



Peter T. Young  
Chairperson

Attachment



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**STATE OF HAWAII  
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ENGINEERING DIVISION  
PO BOX 373  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

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## **DAM SAFETY ADVISORY**

On behalf of the Department of Land and Natural Resources' Dam Safety Program, Engineering Division, please be advised of the following:

Rains are forecasted to continue throughout the week.

As an owner of a dam(s), we are advising you to conduct assessments and to monitor your dam(s).

If you do not have an emergency action plan, you should evaluate and inventory any potential losses downstream of your dam(s) which may occur should your dam be threatened by heavy rains.

Please be prepared to notify your local civil defense, police and fire agencies immediately if you believe an evacuation may be warranted.

If there are any questions, please contact Edwin Matsuda at 587-0268.